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WASHINGTON TALK

Briefing

THREE is one Central Intelligence Agency operative who never comes in from the cold and, indeed, relishes and measures the weather out there. He is David Seibel, the parking attendant at the V.I.P. lot across the Potomac at the C.I.A. headquarters in Langley, Va.

Just in time for the new year, the V.I.P. attendant at the heavily secured campus released his December readings of the daily rainfall at his post, hand-printed and unscrambled on loose-leaf paper, as well as his yearly summary of the rainfall there through most of the last decade. Mr. Seibel, a friendly, unsuspicious man with a gentle, talkative outlook on the comings and goings of the nation's ex-



ecutive spies, uses a coffee can for his daily measurements. He is an officer of the Federal Protection Service who accumulates data with great enthusiasm, carefully melting down the snow for measure when the cold is particularly challenging, and generally cheering up close-mouthed motorists with the notion that everyone talks about the weather but few have really accurate intelligence on it.

Francis X. Clines

Phil Gailey